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(71) Applicant: **ZAMBON GROUP S.p.A.**
Via della Chimica, 9
I-36100 Vicenza(IT)

(72) Inventor: **Giordano, Claudio**
via Ambrosini, 1
I-20052 Monza (Milano)(IT)
Inventor: **Merli, Valeriano**
via Malcantone, 18/A
I-45030 Occhiobello (Rovigo)(IT)
Inventor: **Sagramora, Giorgio**
via Libero Benedetti, 7
I-35100 Padova(IT)
Inventor: **Soriato, Giorgio**
via delle Terme, 22
I-37042 Caldiero (Verona)(IT)

(54) **Process for the preparation of intermediates for the synthesis of diltiazem.**

(57) A process for the preparation of (2S,3S)-threo-2-hydroxy-3-(2-aminophenylthio)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-propionic acid by resolution of the racemic mixture is described.

The resolution is carried out by using as resolving agent (1S,2S)-threo-1-phenyl-2-amino-1,3-propanediol or (1S,2S)-threo-1-(4-methylthiophenyl)-2-amino-1,3-propanediol.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 89 11 3135

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	EP-A-0 154 838 (TANABE SEIYAKU CO.) * Page 50, line 11 - page 52, line 23; claims * - - -	1-5	C 07 C 323/36 C 07 C 319/28 C 07 B 57/00
A	FR-A-2 534 579 (ISTITUTO LUSO FARMACO D'ITALIA) * Whole document * - - -	1-5	
D,A	US-A-4 416 819 (NAGAO et al.) * Example 1; claims * - - - - -	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			C 07 C 319/00 C 07 B 57/00 C 07 C 323/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of search	Examiner
The Hague		03 July 91	HELPS I.M.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention		E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons ----- &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	